SHRI KAMAL NATH: There is a comprehensive plan covering various facets of it. It is not on a ad hoc basis.

डा. बापू कालदाते: कब से शुरु हुआ ?

श्री कमलनाथ: 1983 से इसकी शुरुआत की गयी है ।

श्रीमती कमला सिन्हा: महोदय, मैं एक बात पूछना चाहती हूं जो बारम्बार समाचार पत्रों में भी आयी है । मंत्री महोदय ने एक सनूची वन विकास की योजना के बारे में उत्तर दिया लेकिन जो इसमें सबसे इम्पारटेंट बात थी इन्होंने उसके बारे में कुछ नहीं कहा और वह यह है कि इन वनों में सबसे महंगी लकड़ी चन्दन की लकड़ी पायी जाती है और चन्दन की लकड़ी की बड़े पैमाने पर पोचिंग होती है और साथ ही साथ हाथी की पोचिंग होती है और टॉस्क का अवैध व्यापार होता है । क्या सरकार इसको रोकने का कोई उपाय करेगी ?

श्री कमलनाथ: सर, पिछले सैशन में ही वाईल्ड लाइफ प्रोटेक्शन (अमेंडमेंट) बिल पास हुआ था । इसमें और कड़ी सजा और कार्रवाई आसान करने का प्रबन्ध किया गया है । पोचिंग जरुर हो रही है, इसमें कोई शक नहीं है और सरकार इस पर पूरा ध्यान दे रही है ।

श्रीमती कमला सिन्हा: लकड़ी के बारे में आपका क्या ख्याल है ?

MR. CHAIRMAN: Question Hour is over.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

Exploitation of Ntural Gas

*4. SHRI SARADA MOHANTY:

SHRI CHIMANBHAI MEHTA:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state.

(a) what is the percentage and quantum of identified natural gas reserves being exploited at preent in the country;

(b) what are the reasons for not exploiting more areas;

(c) whether any local or foreign private companies are interested in exploring and utilising such untapped and unutilised reserves, if so, what are the problems that are likely to come in the way of the utilisation; and

(d) whether it is a fact that a project involving outlay of Rs. 7500 crores for exploitation of natural gas has been sanctioned; if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND): (a) In 1990-91 approximately 18 billion cu.mtr. of gas was produced, representing approximately a 2.5 per cent of the recoverable reserves. At preent, the daily production is approximately 50 million cubic metres.

(b) Exploitation of gas in various areas depends on techno-economic considerations, the availability of resources, demand downstream etc.

(c) No concrete proposal is under consideration at present.

(d) The Gas Flaring Reduction Project consists of NQP and SHG process platforms, the South Bassein to Hazira Trunk Pipeline, the expansion of the Hazira Terminal and the ICP-Heera Trunk Pipeline.

Political Solution of Punjab Problem

*5. SHRI SUKOMAL SEN: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) what steps Government are contemplating for a political solution of the Punjab problem; and

(b) what are the reasons for not implementing the Rajiv-Longowal Accord so far?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI M. M. JACOB): (a) The Government is keen to find a comprehensive settlement of all outstanding issues within the framework of the Constitution and to restore the political process in the State as early as possible.

(b) The Government stands by the Rajiv-Longowal accord and is committed to implement the same. Most of the items in the accord have been implemented and for those that remain, efforts will be made to implement them expeditiously.

Implementation of Assam Accord

*6. SHRI RAM NARESH YADAV: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) what is the progress made so far in identifying the foreigners after implementation of the Assam Accord in 1985;

(b) what is the number of foreign national who have been deported so far as per the agreement; and

(c) what are the steps taken by Government and the progress made so far regarding implementation of other clauses of the accord and what are the hurdles in their implementation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI M. M. JACOB):

(a) and (b) As on 31-7-1991.

(i) the number of persons detected as foreigners who came to Assam after 1-1-66 (inclusive) and upto 24-3-71 is —15779.

(ii) The number of persons declared as Illegal Migrants (post 25-3-71 entrants) is —7781.

(iii) Out of those declared as Illegal Migrants, the number of persons expelled is — 716.

(c) The Central Government have taken all the steps on their part in pursuance of the Assam Accord. The progress of some of the important items is given below :—

(I) Border roads and fence

(i) Land acquisition — for 133.55 km of roads.

(ii) Earth work and culverts— for 113.10 km of roads.

(iii) Fencing — 42 kms.

(II) The Citizenship Act has been amended in terms of the Assam Accord.

(III) The IMDT Act, 1983 has been amended in consultation with the Government of Assam to remove the difficulties expressed regarding its implementation.

(IV) To protect, preserve, and promote the cultural, social and linguistic identity and heritage of the Assamese people a cultural complex 'Srimanta Shankaradev Kala Kshetra' has been approved.

(V) For speedy economic development of Assam, the Seventh Plan outlay was stepped up and almost the entire allocation was made available as Central Assistance.

(VI) A number of important Projects identified by the Planning Commission have been taken up for speedy implementation. A Committee was set up under the Chairmnship of Shri L. C. Jain, Member, Planning Commission, whose recommendations would be kept in view while finalising the Plans of the State Government and the Central Government Departments.